



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Bristol Road
Portishead
North Somerset
BS20 6QB
☎ 01275 848367

Headteacher: Mrs E Jackson
Deputy Headteacher: Mr G Bath
E-mail: stjosephs.pri@n-somerset.gov.uk
Website: www.st-josephs.org.uk

Friday 29th September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Autumn is well and truly here, the leaves are all coming down and it's nearly time to put on the heating! Do you know, I still find joy in finding the new shiny conker that has just dropped from the tree and kicking up the leaves in the park. It's a lovely time to take a walk with the family in the fresh air.

I also know Autumn is here as it's our harvest festival service next Friday, please see below for the kinds of things the Clevedon and Portishead food bank would like. Children can bring goods into class all next week in readiness.

"The LORD will indeed give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest."

Psalm 85:12

PTFA

The parents and friends association need you! Please support the PTFA:

The next meeting is the AGM next Monday the 2nd of October at 7.30pm in the school hall, please come along to find out if you can help in any way.

Thank you to all who helped raise a whopping **£593.00** at the Sainsbury bag pack last week. We will be getting under way with our kitchen plans soon.



PTFA Up and coming events

Thursday 9th November **Book at Bedtime** R-Year 3; 5.30pm-6.30pm



"Together we love, together we hope, together we learn."



Friday 1st December **School Christmas discos:** R and KS1; 4.30pm-5.30pm, KS2; 5.45pm-7.00pm
Saturday 2nd December **Christmas Shop and drop** 10.30am- 12.30pm

Don't forget when doing your Christmas shopping on-line you can go to the **Just Giving website**, find St Joseph's PTFA and any purchases you make on line a % goes to the school PTFA.

Do you have a gas BBQ in good condition that you don't need any more? Please contact the school office as the PTFA are in need of one.

Please support the PTFA they do so much for our children.

A message from our PCSO

Improving safety around St Joseph's School in Portishead.

Keeping children safe as they go to and from school is everyone's responsibility.

It is important for drivers to slow down and pay attention when children are present – especially before and after school.

- Talk to your children about road safety on your way to school, stress the importance of wearing a seatbelt.
- Reduce your speed where there are lots of children, especially near to schools. If you are driving at 30mph and a child runs out, your stopping distance will be at least 23 metres. Rushing causes accidents – allow yourself more time for your journey and never be tempted to speed. Drive to arrive.
- Choose a safe place to park your vehicle when waiting to drop your child off or pick up near to the school. Consider others and avoid causing congestion, danger or obstruction. Adhere to the Highway code and only enter onto the roundabout when the road is clear.
- Similarly make sure you do not cause an obstruction when parking or dropping off your children within the school car park.
- Ensure that you alert other road users of your manoeuvres so that there is no confusion.

Applying for Reception school places 2018-2019

Parents can apply online on www.n-somerset.gov.uk/admissions or they can contact the School Admissions Team on 01275 884078 for a paper application from 12th September. The closing date for reception applications is 23:59 on 15 January 2018.

Harvest Service Friday 6th October

The Clevedon and Portishead foodbank would like the following items, if the items could be brought into school in time for our service next week we will deliver them to the food bank:-

Tinned peas, tinned carrots, tinned tomatoes, tinned sweetcorn, tinned potatoes

Tinned fruit, tinned tuna, tinned custard, tinned ham, packets of custard, instant mash, sage and onion stuffing, rice, jars of pasta sauce, coffee, cartons of UHT milk and long life fruit juice, packets of biscuits and chocolate snack bars, tinned sponge puddings, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, loo roll.

They currently have enough pasta and tinned chick peas.



Text Messaging Communication

The office are currently in the process of setting up text messaging via ParentPay for urgent messages. There is no cost to parents for messages sent to you by the school. Following a recent test message it would appear that some parents did not received this. Please could we ask that you log into ParentPay and check your profile settings and ensure that you have registered a mobile phone number. If you would like messages sent to an additional mobile number we will need to create another user (with a different email address) and link it to your child's account. Please email the school office if you require this.

Head Lice

We seem to have a reoccurring problem with head lice across all year groups. Please make sure that long hair is tied up.

Head lice repellents are a good buy, they can either be in a shampoo or a spray, this will stop the head lice from jumping into your child's hair in the first place.

Please could we ask that all parents / carers regularly check their child's hair and treat as necessary. If everyone can have a thorough check and treat (if required) at the same time it does help to stop the constant cycle.

It is helpful if you can notify the school office, in confidence, if your child has headlice to enable us to remind all parents to check as it is far easier to treat if it can be caught early.

The School Nursing team do not recommend chemical treatments, but the "wet combing" method. This is where normal conditioner is applied to wet hair and a nit comb is used to remove any lice and eggs. Please remember that it is important to check and treat all members of the family and not just the children in school, and that hair should be checked regularly.

School Uniform Reminder:

All children should be in winter uniform on Monday. If you are unsure of the uniform code there is a list available in the office and on the web site. Please make sure everything is named as it will go into the lost property box if it is left unnamed around the school.

Named PE kits should be in school all week.

Free School Meals

North Somerset Council has recently changed the process for applications for Free School Meal entitlement. This must be completed at the beginning of every term, online with an instant decision being given. If you think you may be entitled to Free School Meals for your child please follow the link

<http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/schools-learning/local/schools/schoolmeals/freeschoolmeals/>

or come into the school office and we can assist you with your application.

Please also be aware that if your application is successful the school receives other additional funding to support your child's learning experience. Therefore it is beneficial to your child if you apply even if your child is currently in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and receiving Universal Infant Free School Meals.



Community events

You are warmly invited to **CELEBRATE BRISTOL**, a catholic conference for all the family, combining good Christian teaching and celebration of the liturgy. CELEBRATE is suitable for all ages and is open to individuals and families alike. Children and young people are split into age appropriate groups called "streams", which are led by experienced leaders. Throughout the weekend there are various speakers, workshops and activities that you can attend. Mass is offered twice over the weekend and there is also adoration and reconciliation. Celebrate is an inspirational weekend, where you can find renewal in your faith in a relaxed and friendly environment. The event is held no more than 7 miles away at: **St Bede's Catholic College, Lawrence Weston, Bristol, BS11 0SU**. It takes place on **Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd of October** (first weekend of half term). For registration and more information please go to: www.celebrateconference.org/bristol

ALPHA

Alpha is an attractive presentation of the Christian faith, mainly for those who want to understand the basics of it, but everyone can benefit. Our parish is joining forces with St Peter's, Methodist, GVC and Vintage churches to organise it. In a typical Alpha evening there is a meal, a talk, a time for discussion in a small group, and a very friendly atmosphere. Alpha will take place at the High Street Methodist church on Tuesdays at 7.30pm from 3rd October until 5th December. How about inviting a friend or neighbour and going along with him/her? To book ring 847032 or mail admin@gvc.org.uk

Beginners 1 Makaton Workshop

Thursday 5th & 12th October 2017
7.00-9.30 p.m.

Springboard Opportunity Group
Ashcombe Childrens Centre
Stepping Stone Walk
Weston Super Mare
BS23 3NA

Please call 01275 341113 or email emma@springboardweb.org.uk to book your place.

Pet Service

Saturday 7th October - 14.30

St Peters Church Portishead.

**House pets welcome in pet carriers—dogs on leads
Retiring collection for Cats Protection**



IMPORTANT DATES Ahead

Christmas performance dates:-

Reception Nativity: Monday Dec 4th 8.50am

Years 1 and 2 Nativity: Wednesday 6th December 2.00pm and 6.30pm

Years 3 and 4 Victorian Christmas Extravaganza: Tuesday 12th December 2.00pm and 7.00pm(with refreshments)

Years 5 and 6 carol service: Thursday 14th December 7.00pm, St Joseph's Church

God Bless

Mrs Jackson

"We may be excused for not always being bright, but we may not be excused from being gracious, giving and considerate"

St Francis De Sales

Academic year 2017-2018

Term dates

- term 1: Monday 4 September 2017 to Friday 20 October 2017
- term 2: Monday 30 October 2017 to Tuesday 19 December 2017
- term 3: Thursday 4 January 2018 to Friday 9 February 2018
- term 4: Monday 19 February 2018 to Friday 23 March 2018
- term 5: Monday 9 April 2018 to Friday 25 May 2018
- term 6: Monday 4 June 2018 to Tuesday 24 July 2018

INSET DATES:

30th October 2017

9th February 2018

23rd July 2018

24th July 2018

Unless otherwise stated, Praise Assembly takes place every Friday at 8.30am. Parents/carers are welcome to attend these assemblies.